



Sincerely yours,
Ted Kaczynski

THE UNABOMBER LETTERS

A YAHOO NEWS SPECIAL REPORT

Kaczynski pitches himself to the media

While Kaczynski denied most media requests, he wrote letters to publications, including The New Yorker, which were rejected. At one point, he proposed an interview under certain conditions to Rolling Stone, Penthouse and Playboy, but nothing came of it.

All letters and documents are property of
the University of Michigan Library's Labadie Collection.

The selection was curated by Yahoo News

YAHOO!
NEWS

Great Falls Tribune

I would like people to know that a great deal of what they read about me in the newspapers is false. I can't list all of the errors here — if I tried to do that, this letter would be far too long for you to publish. But I am learning that the media's standard of accuracy is shockingly bad. When I was a kid, people used to say, "You can't believe what you read in the papers." I never realized how true that statement was until now.

On a different subject, I would like to say that I have been treated very kindly and considerately by the staff at the Lewis and Clark County Jail, and I want to thank them for it publicly.

Theodore J. Kaczynski

January 6, 2000

To New Yorker Magazine

Dear Sirs:

Please cancel my subscription to the New Yorker and send me the unexpended part of the subscription price. Please put my register number, 04475-046, on your check in order to facilitate processing.

I am enclosing the address label from a copy of the New Yorker that was mailed to me, in case you need the information on the label to identify my subscription.

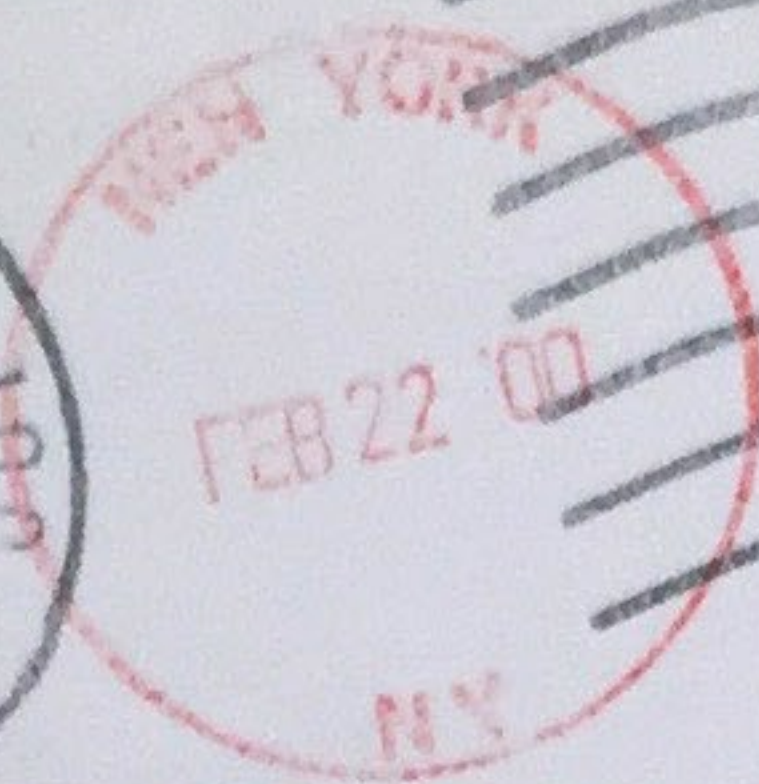
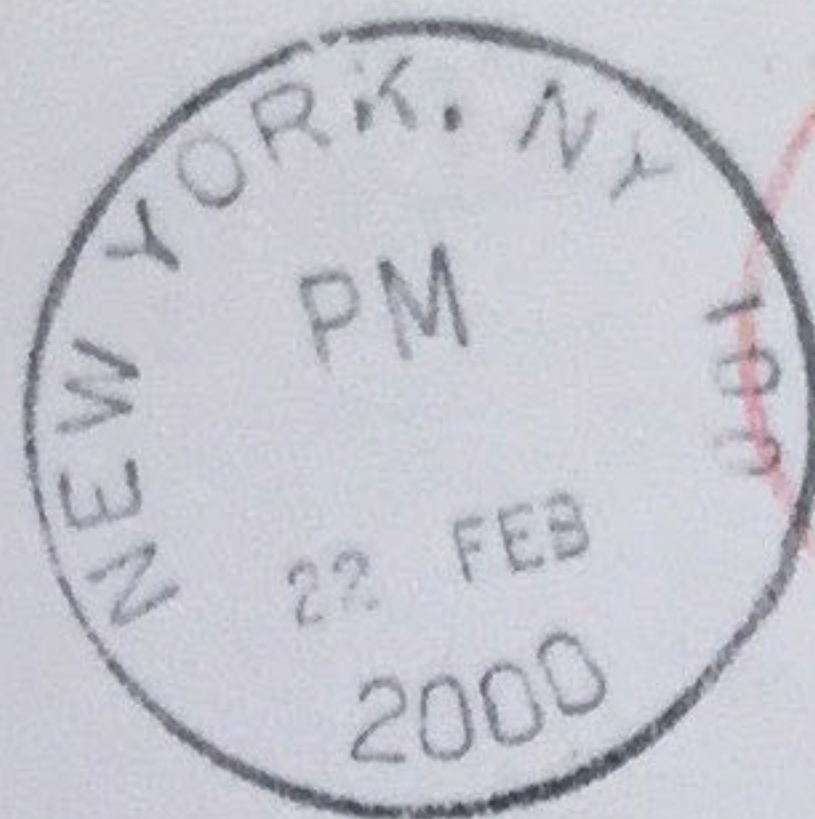
Sincerely yours,

Theodore J. Kaczynski

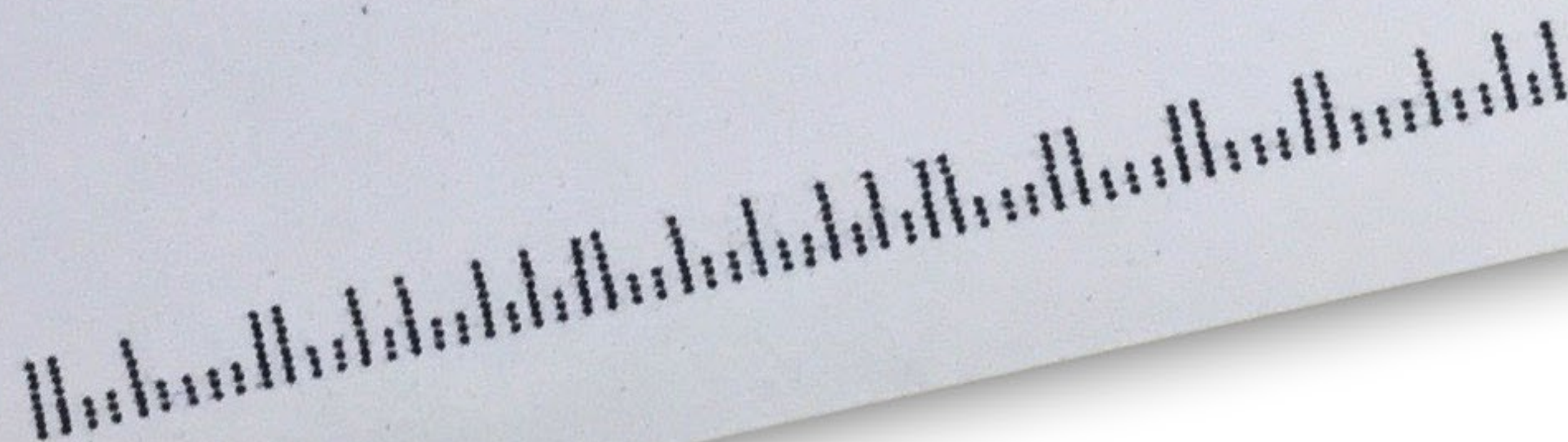
Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500

[Some unknown party got me this subscription to New Yorker; I tried to cancel so I could get the \$ instead of the mags, but the New Yorker ignored my request.
TJK 4/23/00]

From:
The New York Review of Books
1755 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10019-3780



To: Theodore John KACZYNSKI
04475-046
US PENITENTIARY MAX
PO BOX 8500
FLORENCE, CO 81226-8500



The New York Review of Books

1755 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10019-3780

Thank you very much for writing. Since we receive thousands of letters and comments, we cannot reply directly to each one. Nor can we say in advance whether a letter will be published, although each one is carefully considered.

The Editors

507

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500

February 10, 2000

Editors

The New York Review
1755 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York NY 10019-3780

Dear Sirs:

In the exchange of letters on psychoanalysis that appeared in the New York Review, February 24, 2000, no one addressed what is possibly the most important problem with psychoanalysis. Whether this or that psychoanalytic claim is true or false is somewhat beside the point. The Bible contains much historical truth and many astute insights into human nature, but that isn't why people believe in the Bible. Similarly, the alchemists of the mystical school may have made many correct observations that were useful to later scientists, but that wasn't what their enterprise was all about, nor was it why they believed in their theory.

The scientist's aim is to formulate theories that correctly predict observable results. Devising a theory that stands up under empirical testing satisfies the scientist's personal needs in various ways,

as by giving him a sense of accomplishment, winning the approval of his colleagues, and advancing his career. What distinguishes pseudoscience from science (and I'm referring here to sincere pseudoscience, not to conscious charlatanism) is that the pseudoscientist satisfies his personal needs through belief in a theory rather than through empirical testing of theories. It is the psychological potency of the theory itself that attracts the pseudoscientist, not its capacity to predict experimental results. Thus the pseudoscientist's commitment to a theory is determined largely by his psychological needs rather than by empirical observation. In this respect pseudoscience resembles religion and much of philosophy, and differs from them only in that it tries to clothe itself in the trappings of empirical science.

One doesn't have to read much psychoanalysis to see that its methods are predominantly those of pseudoscience, not science. Even the language used makes this clear. For example, Marcia Cavell says in the fourth paragraph of her letter that "the mind is not the master in its own house," and apparently she thinks that this statement has a scientific basis. But in scientific terms the statement is meaningless. It is an expression of

attitude, an ideological statement, and is characteristic of psychoanalytic ideology.

Since I haven't read anything psychoanalytic published within approximately the last two decades, I'm not in a position to assert that psychoanalysis is still pseudoscience today. But it would be surprising if the field had reformed itself in a sufficiently fundamental way to become a genuine science.

I assume that the foregoing remarks will meet with considerable resistance from believers in psychoanalysis — and here I use the word "resistance" in the psychoanalytic sense. To paraphrase Mortimer Ostow (fourth paragraph of his letter), "Does a psychoanalyst know why he believes in psychoanalysis? It is common to reply to this question with rationalizations, but rationalization isn't reason."

Ted Kaczynski

0507.0

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046

U.S. Penitentiary Max

P.O. Box 8500

Florence CO 81226-8500

February 28, 2005

Letters-to-Editor Dept.

The New York Review of Books

1755 Broadway, 5th Floor

New York NY 10019-3780

Editor:

In "Survival of the Smallest", New York Review, March 10, 2005, István Deák writes on page 22: "In ancient Egypt, dwarfs were often venerated like gods." Deák here is discussing pathological dwarves. However, Paul Schebesta, Die Bambuti-Pygmäen vom Ituri, I. Band, Institut Royal Colonial Belge, Brussels, 1938, pages 5-11, argues persuasively that the "god-dancers" venerated by the ancient Egyptians were not pathological dwarves at all, but pygmies from the African rain forest. Schebesta cites, inter alia, a letter of the pharaoh Pepi II or Phriops II (Sixth Dynasty) which seems clearly to support this view.

Theodore John Kaczynski
THEODORE JOHN KACZYNSKI

0507.0

The New York Review of Books

1755 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10019-3780

Thank you very much for writing. Since we receive thousands of letters and comments, we cannot reply directly to each one. Nor can we say in advance whether a letter will be published, although each one is carefully considered.

The Editors

September 8, 2001

0671

"The Mail"

The New Yorker

4 Times Square

New York NY 10036-6592

Sirs:

Jon Lee Anderson represents Simón Bolívar as having said that his attempt to unify Latin America had been like "plowing the sea" ("The Revolutionary", September 10, page 62, column 3). But what Bolívar actually wrote was, "He who serves a revolution plows the sea" (letter to General Juan José Flores, November 9, 1830; see Simón Bolívar: Escritos políticos, edited by Graciela Soriano, Alianza Editorial, S.A., Madrid, 1975, page 169). The distinction is important, because Bolívar was making a remark about revolutions in general, not just about the effort to unify Latin America. Perhaps he had come to realize that, if the word "revolution" is understood to mean an attempt to transform an entire society and not merely to attain a specific political goal such as the independence of a colony, then revolutions never achieve the expected and desired results. Revolutions can be successful only in their destructive

aspect. You can destroy an existing social order but you can't build a new one according to a preconceived plan. The outcome of any revolution is completely uncontrollable.

It is extremely important for people to understand that this is the case, and that it applies also to the technological revolution that we are currently going through. If people fully grasped the implications of this, they would shudder.

Ted Kaczynski

Theodore John Kaczynski

04475-046

U.S. Penitentiary Max

P.O. Box 8500

Florence CO 81226-8500

I am not accessible by telephone.

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500
December 12, 2000

Linda Giustina
(or, alternatively, Peter Bloch)
Penthouse
11 Penn Plaza, 12th Floor
New York NY 10001

Dear Ms. Giustina:

What follows (except the postscript) is a duplicate of a letter dated December 10, 2000 that I addressed to Mr. Bloch at 1965 Broadway, New York NY 10023. I've now been informed that this is an old address, which is why I'm now sending this duplicate to the correct address.

* * *

I recently received a letter from Theresa Kintz in which she told me that she had offered to sell you some material from her interviews with me, or an article based on those interviews, and that you had offered her \$12,000 for her wares. She wants my permission to sell you this material. I am not giving her this permission (though I may give it to her later if she meets certain conditions). I am writing to you now to make it clear that it will be to your advantage to deal with me directly and not with Ms.

Kintz. Let me explain.

I gave Ms. Kintz four interviews in June and July of 1999. At the beginning of the first interview I stated that the interviews were not to be exploited commercially and that they were to be published only in the Earth First! Journal, and Ms. Kintz accepted those conditions. Since then Ms. Kintz has repeatedly promised me that she would never publish any of the interviews without my permission, and she has promised that if she did publish anything she would first give me an opportunity to correct whatever she quoted me as saying.

Nevertheless, shortly after the interviews were concluded, Ms. Kintz, without first receiving my permission, approached both Harper's and The Boston Globe. She claimed afterward that she was not trying to sell them the material, but The Boston Globe did print information about the interviews that she provided. In addition, Ms. Kintz did publish parts of the interviews in two anarchist journals (Green Anarchist, of London, UK, and Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed), and she did so without my prior permission and without giving me any realistic opportunity to correct my statements. Ms. Kintz has also failed to keep certain other promises that she made me, but I need not detail those here. I have no

idea whether, in her dealings with you, she will keep her promise not to release any of the interview material without my permission.

I would resent having my name and my words exploited by Ms. Kintz. Moreover, because my interview responses were extemporaneous oral communications, my words were not well chosen and do not necessarily reflect my opinions accurately. I also question whether Ms. Kintz has accurately transcribed the tapes of the interviews, especially since the tapes were very difficult to understand due to improper placement of the microphone. Hence, when Ms. Kintz publishes interview material without my having an opportunity to correct my statements, my views may be misrepresented.

I have to assume that there is a possibility that Penthouse will buy Ms. Kintz's material without any regard to whether she is offering it in violation of promises that she has made me. However, I will give you an incentive to deal with me instead of with Ms. Kintz: Whatever offer she may make you (if the offer is one that she can realistically fulfill and is made without my permission), I will make you a better offer. For example, if Ms. Kintz offers to sell you all of the material from the interview tapes, then I will give you a new interview covering all of the same ground and (with certain restrictions) any

additional ground that you might care to cover. (A good interviewer using well-chosen questions should have no difficulty covering in one day what Ms. Kintz covered in four days, because Ms. Kintz is not a skilled interviewer and is moreover a very talkative person, so that she did — I would estimate — 90% of the talking during the interviews, and spent less than one full interview day actually asking me questions.)

I suggest the following conditions for the new interview: The interviewing will be done by a person whom I will designate. You will pay her whatever fee you can negotiate with her, and her anonymity will be carefully preserved. You can have a representative of your own present to participate in the interview if you like. You can prepare a list of questions for the interviewer, and I will answer most questions, excluding only those belonging to certain narrow categories. For instance, the interviewer will not ask me a question if she feels that my answer to it might have a negative impact on my legal position.

This is not a good time for me to give an interview, and I am offering you one now only in order to forestall Ms. Kintz. Once an interview covering the same ground has been published, Ms. Kintz's material presumably will have little commercial value, and she will no longer be in a

position to cause me much trouble.

In communicating with me, please bear in mind that my mail is slow. It might take about a week for a letter from you to reach me, and nine days for my reply to reach you. That's if we're lucky. Both my incoming and my outgoing letters can occasionally take as long as two weeks to reach their destination. I will not be able to communicate with you by telephone, but Blake Davis, the prison official who arranges interviews, can be reached at 719-784-9464.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kazynski

P.S. My erstwhile attorney, Judy Clarke, may be able to help you to expedite arrangements for the interview, because she will be able to communicate more quickly than I can with the person whom I would like to use as an interviewer. Ms. Clarke's address is:

Judy Clarke, Executive Director
Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington & Idaho
10 North Post, Suite 700
Spokane WA 99201

Telephone 509-624-7606

- TJK

0701.0
Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500

January 8, 2001

Arthur Kretchmer
Editorial Director
Playboy Magazine
680 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago IL 60611

Dear Mr. Kretchmer:

I may decide to give an interview soon, and I would like to know whether you would be interested in interviewing me or in publishing an article based on an interview with me.

Owing to my peculiar situation, I will have to impose certain conditions on any interview that I may give:

1. A representative of mine must be present at all times during the interview.

2. No questions can be asked that have not been approved by my representative.

Questions will have to cover certain topics that I will specify, but once those have been covered the interviewing periodical can ask questions on other topics, with the reservation that certain topics will be off limits.

3. No word can be spoken during the interview except when the tape recorder is running. Every word must be recorded.

4. My representative will take immediate possession of each tape as it is finished.

0701.0

He or she will subsequently copy the tapes, keep the originals, and give the copies to you.

As you may know, I am currently involved in a legal appeal, and for legal reasons I have to be careful what I say. I also have to be careful that no one can later claim that I said something that I did not actually say. This is the main reason for the conditions 1 through 4 above.

I have a friend whom I would trust to interview me and write an article based on the interview. The catch is that she would have to remain anonymous. If this is unacceptable to you, then other arrangements should be possible. For example, you might send your own interviewer, and my friend could merely serve as my representative in accord with the conditions 1 through 4 above. Under these circumstances I would not imagine that you would have any objection to her remaining anonymous.

If you are interested in any such proposal, please let me know as soon as may be convenient for you.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski

0701.0

This was returned
to TJK with
rejection slip

Theodore John
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary
P.O. Box 850
Florence CO

January 8, 1971

Arthur Kretchmer
Editorial Director
Playboy Magazine
680 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago IL 60611

Dear Mr. Kretchmer:

I may decide to give an interview.
I would like to know whether you
are interested in interviewing me or in
writing an article based on an interview with me.

Owing to my peculiar situation
I have to impose certain conditions on
any interview that I may give:

1. A representative of mine must
be present at all times.

0701.067



PLAYBOY

The enclosed material has been read and considered, but we do not find it suitable for Playboy.

We regret that we cannot offer individual criticism, because of the volume of submissions we receive.

Your interest in Playboy is appreciated.

The Editors



S I M O N & S C H U S T E R

Simon & Schuster Consumer Group
1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
212-698-7344 • Fax: 212-698-7453
E-Mail: robert_bender@prenhall.com

Bob Bender
Vice President
Senior Editor
Trade Division

June 29, 1998

Mr. Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
P.O. Box 8500
Florence, CO 81226

Dear Mr. Kaczynski:

I'm sorry not to have replied sooner to your first letter, dated June 1, about your manuscript. I understood from that letter that in the absence of a positive response by June 16 you would be seeking another publisher.

I doubt that there exists a significant readership for the manuscript that you describe in your letter. But I could not agree to review a manuscript under the terms you propose in your letter.

Sincerely,

Bob Bender

08120

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500

January 9, 2001

John S. Wenner
Editor and Publisher
Rolling Stone
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York NY 10104

Dear Mr. Wenner:

I may decide to give an interview soon, and I would like to know whether you would be interested in interviewing me or in publishing an article based on an interview with me.

Owing to my peculiar situation, I will have to impose certain conditions on any interview that I may give:

1. A representative of mine must be present at all times during the interview.
2. No questions can be asked that are not approved by my representative. Questions will have to cover certain topics that I will specify, but once those have been covered the interviewing periodical can ask questions on other topics, with the reservation that certain topics will be off limits.
3. No word can be spoken during the interview except when the tape recorder is running. Every word must be recorded.

08/20

4. My representative will take immediate possession of each tape as it is finished. He or she will subsequently copy the tapes, keep the originals, and give the copies to you.

As you may know, I am currently involved in a legal appeal, and for legal reasons I have to be careful what I say. I also have to be careful that no one can later claim that I said something that I did not actually say. This is the main reason for the conditions 1 through 4 above.

I have a friend whom I would trust to interview me and write an article based on the interview. The catch is that she would have to remain anonymous or use a pseudonym. If this is unacceptable to you, then other arrangements should be possible. For example, you might send your own interviewer, and my friend could merely serve as my representative in accord with the conditions 1 through 4 above. Under these circumstances I imagine you would have no objection to her remaining anonymous.

If you are interested in any such proposal, please let me know as soon as may be convenient for you.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski



1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104 (212)484-1616

January 29, 2001

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence, cO 81226-8500

Dear Mr. Kaczynski:

We are very interested in an interview with you for publication in an article in *Rolling Stone*. Regarding the conditions set forth in your letter for the interview, I am confident that we can come to terms. We would be willing to abide by your request to keep certain subjects off limits for your legal needs, providing we are apprised of these areas before we begin. We do not object to your representative's presence or the full on-the-record taping of the material during the sessions. We would ask that your representative copy the tape for us immediately after the interview, and the copyright ownership of the tape is *Rolling Stone's* and cannot be sold to or used by another publication or medium without our permission.

We should point out that we're seeking an in-depth interview, and will be asking you questions of personal nature about who you are, what motivated you to live the life you have lived, what you believe, to discuss your current life and so forth.

As regards the writer, we would choose a writer, and the article would be wholly a product of this writer's work, based on the transcription of the interview with you.

Rolling Stone has an impeccable record of accuracy in its reporting in 33 years of publishing, and we are the recipient of many awards to prove it. We would be happy to speak to you or your representative about any or all of this at any time.

We look forward to further discussions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jann S. Wenner". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jann S. Wenner

0812

Theodore John Kaczynski

04475-046

U.S. Penitentiary Max

P.O. Box 8500

Florence CO 81226-8500

February 7, 2001

John S. Wenner

Editor and Publisher

Rolling Stone

1290 Avenue of the Americas

New York NY 10104

Dear Mr. Wenner:

Thank you for your courteous letter of January 29, which I received yesterday, February 6.

In my letter to you of January 9, I wrote, "I may decide to give an interview soon" (emphasis added). I had been considering the possibility of giving an interview because of an urgent and very disagreeable situation that had been forced on me by the impulsive behavior of a certain person whom I need not identify here. It now looks as if that situation will be resolved without my having to give an interview. However, this is not yet certain. I won't decide definitely whether to give an interview until I've discussed the question with a particular friend of mine.

But if, as seems likely, I decide not to give an interview in the near future, then I apologize for having wasted



1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104 (212) 484-1616

February 21, 2001

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U.S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence, CO 81226-8500

Dear Mr. Kaczynski:

Thank you for your recent letter. I am happy to hear your problems have been resolved but disappointed we won't have the chance to interview you. I had some pretty terrific writers from *Rolling Stone* lined up to go visit with you and my strong feelings about these writers and your willingness to discuss the non-legal aspects of your situation today would have produced quite a brilliant piece of journalism.

In any case, should participating in such an event be of interest to you in the future, we remain very interested. (I vaguely recall some discussion about an earlier interview with you but I don't recall the details nor do I remember the writer.)

Thank you for thinking of *Rolling Stone*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jann S. Wenner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Jann S. Wenner

JSW/mo



March 12, 2003

Theodore J. Kaczynski
04475-046

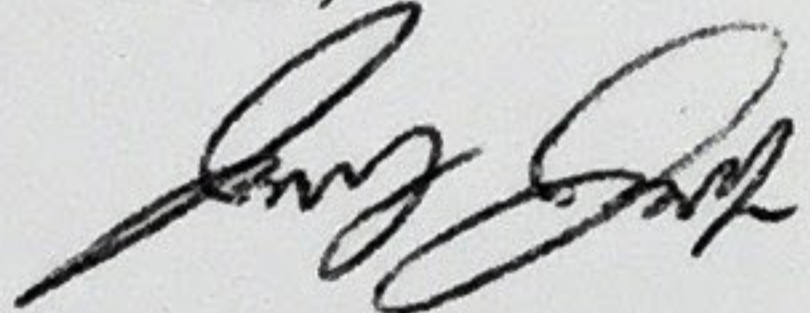
Admin Max Facility
PO Box 8500
Florence, CO 81226

Dear Mr. Kaczynski:

Rolling Stone Magazine is interested in speaking with you via mail in order to get a clearer understanding about your philosophy. It may seem like much time has passed since your incarceration, but we believe that the ideas you espoused still carry much weight in a society that has begun to crumble at its foundation. Were you a warning of impending doom? Or were you merely laying out a horrifying future that was beyond our control to prevent? You may provide our readers with valuable insight and shed light on why you had to do what you did. As such, we want to get some preliminary information as well; basically how you are coping under confinement at Florence. We find the SuperMax conditions to be inhumane and many ways a form of political torture. I may be reached via David Swanson at Rolling Stone Magazine 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York, 10104

1. Tell us how you spend your time in Corcoran.
2. Walk us through your day
3. What jobs do you hold?
4. What is your interaction like with other prisoners?
5. Have you ever faced violence behind bars at the hands of other inmates?
6. How would you characterize the state of the prison system as a whole?

Best,



Jimmy Jellinek
Rolling Stone Magazine

0951.0

Theodore John Kaczynski
04475-046
U. S. Penitentiary Max
P.O. Box 8500
Florence CO 81226-8500

January 8, 2001

David Granger,
Editor in Chief
Esquire Magazine
250 West Fifty-fifth Street,
Seventh Floor
New York NY 10019

Dear Mr. Granger:

I may decide to give an interview soon, and I would like to know whether you would be interested in interviewing me or in publishing an article based on an interview with me.

Owing to my peculiar situation, I will have to impose certain conditions on any interview that I may give:

1. A representative of mine must be present at all times during the interview.

2. No questions can be asked that are not approved by my representative. Questions will have to cover certain topics that I will specify, but once those have been covered the interviewing periodical can ask questions on other topics, with the reservation that certain topics will be off limits.

3. No word can be spoken during the interview except when the tape recorder is running. Every word must be recorded.

0951.0

4. My representative will take immediate possession of each tape as it is finished. He or she will subsequently copy the tapes, keep the originals, and give the copies to you.

As you may know, I am currently involved in a legal appeal, and for legal reasons I have to be careful what I say. I also have to be careful that no one can later claim that I said something that I did not actually say. This is the main reason for the conditions 1 through 4 above.

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If you are interested in any such proposal, please let me know as soon as may be convenient for you.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski